

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 DRC-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 IO-14 OIC-04 AEC-11 OMB-01 SAM-01 H-03 NSC-07

SS-20 /152 W

----- 094314

P R 302250Z MAY 74

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6010

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO USDEL MBFR VIENNA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T USNATO 3031

E.O.11652: GDS 12-31-82

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: MAY 30 SPC DISCUSSION OF DATA

SUMMARY: AT MAY 30 SPC MEETING, MC REP CIRCULATED AGREED WG REPORT ON DATA (COVER NOTE AND ANNEX A SEPTTEL, ANNEX B BEING POUCHED WASHINGTON AND VIENNA) AND THEN CIRCULATED ON HIS OWN AUTHORITY A GENERAL COMMENTARY ON DATA QUESTION AND TENTATIVE REMARKS ON IMPLICATIONS OF ADOPTING NEW FIGURES IN NEGOTIATIONS (TEXTS SEPTELS). UK, SUPPORTED IN VARIOUS DEGREE OF EMPHASIS BY BELGIUM, NETHERLANDS, CANADA AND FRG, OPPOSED GIVING AHG AUTHORITY TO USE ANY FIGURES IN NEGOTIATIONS, AND CALLED FOR EARLY CONVENING OF INTELLIGENCE CONFERENCE TO RESOLVE "GREY AREAS". US REP MADE STRONG APPEAL TO SEND AT LEAST BASIC FIGURES TO AHG FOR THEIR INTERNAL USE, WHICH AFTER LENGTHY DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERABLE SUPPORT BY IMS REP, SPC AGREED TO DO. IS WILL NOW FORWARD WG REPORT AND ANNEX A TO AHG UNDER COVER NOTE SPECIFYING THE FIGURES ARE FOR SECRET

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ITS INTERNAL USE ONLY. SPC RETURNS TO DATA QUESTION JUNE

4. END SUMMARY.

1. AT MAY 30 SPC MEETING CHAIRMAN (KASTL) REPORTED THAT WG

HAD NOW APPROVED ITS REPORT ON DATA AND REQUESTED IMS REP (SMITH) TO COMMENT. SPECIFYING THAT HIS REMARKS WERE INFORMAL AND ENTIRELY ON HIS OWN AUTHORITY, IMS REP READ FROM, AND THEN CIRCULATED SPEAKING NOTES (TEXT SEPTEL) MAIN THRUST OF WHICH WAS THAT AHG SHOULD HAVE AS MUCH BACKGROUND DATA AS POSSIBLE TO BE ABLE TO EXPLAIN AND ACCOUNT FOR ANY FIGURES, INCLUDING AGGREGATES, IT MIGHT HAVE TO USE IN NEGOTIATION.

2. UK REP (LOGAN) MADE FOLLOSING POINTS. FIRST WAS THAT UK WISHED ONLY TO SEND AHG REFISED NATO TOTAL OF 791,000, WHICH MEANT THAT IT OPPOSED INCLUSION OF DUTCH SHORT LEAVE PERSONNEL. SECOND, UK BELIEVED THAT IN NEGOTIATIONS AHG SHOULD ONLY USE ALLIED ACTUAL AS OPPOSED TO AUTHORIZED STRENGTHS, AND IT THEREFORE QUESTIONED WHETHER NEW FRG JOINT SERVICE PERSONNEL SHOULD BE INCLUDED. UK ALSO FELT THAT ALLIES SHOULD CONVENE A SPECIAL INTELLIGENCE CONFERENCE RIGHT AWAY TO SHED LIGHT ON "GREY AREAS" IN WP FIGURES. STUDY OF GREY AREAS WAS KEY FACTOR, IN UK VIEW, FOR DETERMINING WHETHER ALLIES COULD HOLD TO NEW TOTAL FIGURES NOW APPEARING IN WG REPORT. UK THEREFORE BELIEVED THAT NO WP FIGURES SHOULD BE SENT TO VIENNA UNTIL ALLIES HAD REACHED AGREEMENT ON OUTSTANDING ISSUES IN WP FIGURES AND HAD SATISFIED THEMSELVES THAT AGGREGATES WERE DEFENSIBLE AND VALID.

3. US REP MADE STRONG APPEAL FOR ALLIES TO RESPOND TO AHGS REQUEST FOR DATA. HE SAID HE WOULD BE PREPARED TO DEFER QUESTION OF WHICH FIGURES SHOULD BE USED IN NEGOTIATION, BUT FELT THAT AHG SHOULD AT LEAST BE ABLE TO DEVELOP THEIR NEGOTIATING TACTICS ON THE BASIS OF CURRENTLY AGREED FIGURES. WHILE US FAVORED SENDING AHG ALL NATO AGREED DATA, HE URGED THAT SPC AT LEAST SEND ANNEX -. NOTHING THAT VIENNA WOULD OBTAIN DATA ANYWAY (EITHER BILATERALLY FROM CAPITALS OR INFORMALLY THROUGH MILITARY CHANNELS), HE BELIEVED IT WOULD BE BETTER TO HAVE SPC TRANSMIT IT FORMALLY IN ORDER TO PREVENT ANY POSSIBLE DISAGREEMENTS ON WHICH FIGURES WERE NATO AGREED. HE ADDED THAT US PREFERENCE FOR NATO
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TOTAL WOULD BE 791,000, BUT SENDING ONLY THAT FIGURE TO VIENNA WOULD BE INADEQUATE FOR THEIR NEEDS.

4. DUTCH REP (SIZOO) SAID HE COULD SUPPORT CONVENING A CONFERENCE OF EXPERTS, EITHER FORMALLY OR INFORMALLY, TO CLARIFY GREY AREAS. ON 7,000 DUTCH SHORT LEAVE PERSONNEL QUESTION, HE SAID THE HAGUE HAD NOT TAKEN A FINAL DECISION, BUT HAD BEEN IMPRESSED BY US AND UK ARGUMENTS SUPPORTING THEIR EXCLUSION. HE ALSO BELIEVED THAT TIME HAD NOT YET COME TO SEND ANY DATA TO VIENNA, SINCE ALLIES NEEDED TO TAKE POLITICAL DECISIONS ON THE DEFINITION OF FORCES BEFORE THE AHG BEGAN TO REVIEW THEM. THE SAME ARGUMENT APPLIED WITH RESPECT TO THE DILEMMAS RELATING TO HOW SSM AND

HELICOPTER UNITS SHOULD BE ACCOUNTED FOR, AND WHETHER OR NOT DUTCH SHORT LEAVE PERSONNEL SHOULD BE INCLUDED. CANADIAN REP (ROY) SAID HE FAVORED CONVENING A CONFERENCE, AND THAT CANADA WOULD BE PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE IN ITS DISCUSSIONS. OTTAWA BELIEVED THAT ALLIES SHOULD BE CERTAIN AS TO HOW THE FIGURES THEY WERE PUTTING FORWARD HAD BEEN ARRIVED AT, AND SHOULD BE SURE THAT THE BASIS OF COUNT WITH RESPECT TO AIR MANPOWER WAS CONSISTENT ON THE ALLIED AND WP SIDES.

5. FRG REP (HOYNCK) SAID THAT CPITALS MUST REVIEW POLITICAL QUESTIONS BEFORE FIGURES ARE INTRODUCED INTO NEGOTIATIONS. MENAWHILE, HOWEVER, BONN COULD GO ALONG WITH EITHER THE US OR UK PROPOSAL. BELGIAN REP (BURNY) SAID THAT ALLIES SHOULD AVOID DISCUSSING FIGURES WITH EAST AT THIS TIME, SINCE IT MIGHT FORCE THEM TO EXPLAIN ALL THE DIFFICULTIES THEY CURRENTLY HAVE IN REACHING TOTAL FIGURES.

6. IMS REP MADE LENGTHY PRESENTATION IN EFFORT TO REBUT UK ARGUMENTS. IN NATO MILITARY VIEW DETAILED ANALYSIS OF GREY AREAS WOULD VERY PROBABLY NOT CHANGE OVERALL FIGURES. HE REMINDED UK REP THAT GROSS FIGURES REPRESENT AGREED INTELLIGENCE RESULTING FROM MC 161/74 CONFERENCE, AND THAT AGREEMENT ON DETAILED ELEMENTS IN THE PACT AIR DEFENSE STRUCTURE WOULD PROBABLY NEVER BE POSSIBLE. IF ALLIES DO ATTEMPT TO EXAMINE ANOMOLIES, THEY WILL BECOME ENGAGED IN A LENGTHY PROCESS WHICH WILL HAVE EFFECT OF DENYING AN AG BASIC MATERIAL REQUIRED FOR CONDUCTING

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NEGOTIATIONS. THE POSSIBLE FLUX IN FIGURES CONTAINED IN GREY AREAS OF THE WP AIR DEFENSE STRUCTURE WOULD NOT MAKE A GREAT DEAL OF DIFFERENCE TO WP AGGREGATES. AS FAR AS NATO MILITARY WERE CONCERNED THE BASIC ALLIED OBJECTIVE SHOULD BE TO SUCCESSFULLY NEGOTIATE THE CORRECT NUMBER OF REDUCTIONS WHICH ALLIES CAN ACCEPT, AND TO ESTABLISH VERIFIABLE POST-REDUCTION TOTALS WITHIN A COMMON CEILING THAT ALLIES CAN LIVE WITH. FURTHER EFFORTS TO REACH AGREEMENT ON DETAILS (WHICH IN ANY CASE ARE NOT LIKELY TO CHANGE SIGNIFICANTLY OVERALL TOTALS) WILL THEREFORE DELAY THIS OVERALL OBJECTIVE.

7. WORKING ON GENERAL CONSENSUS THAT RELEASE OF FIGURES INTO NEGOTIATIONS WAS UNACCEPTABLE, CHAIRMAN PROPOSED THAT SPC AGREE TO SEND COVER NOTE AND ANNEX A TO AHG FOR ITS INTERNAL USE. IN TRANSMITTING CABLE, IT WOULD CLEARLY POINT OUT THAT STATISTICAL MATERIAL IN WORKING GROUP PAPER WAS NOT FOR USE IN NEGOTIATIONS, AND THAT IT HAD NOT BEEN AGREED TO BY SPC FOR COUNCIL. THERE WERE NO OBJECTIONS.

8. US REP SAID THAT HE WOULD REPORT VIEW OF SEVERAL ALLIES THAT AN INTELLIGENCE CONFERENCE OF EXPERTS BE CONVENED.

HE ADDED THAT IN US VIEW THIS MIGHT WELL NOT SOLVE PROBLEM,
AND THAT THERE WILL BE A CONTINUING NEED TALK TO SOVIETS
ABOUT DATS. HE EXPRESSED FURHTER HOPE THAT SHOULD A MEETING
OF EXPERTS CONVENE, SUCH A DEVEOPMENT WILL RESULT IN AN
UNDERSTANDING THAT A SPECIFIC SET OF FIGURES CAN BE RELEADED
INTO NEGOTIATIONS, AND THAT AFTER GREY AREAS HAD BEEN
RESOLVED, ALL OBSTACLES REGARDING THEIR USE WOULD BE REMOVED.
UK REP ADDED THAT LONDON WAS NOT INTENDING TO SEEK REVISIONS
TO AGREED MC 161/74 DATA. WHAT WAS NEEDED WAS THAT ALLIES
EXAMINE THEM IN A DIFFERENT CONTEXT, I.E. THAT OF MBFR.
IMS REP AGREED THAT PROBLEMS SHOULD BE CLEARED UP, BUT THAT
HE DID NOT SHARE THE SUBSTANTIVE APPREHENSIONS WHICH MOTIVATED
THE UKS PROPOSALS.

9. SPC RETURNS TO DATA QUESTION JUNE 4. RUMSFELD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 11 JUN 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ATO03031
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS 12-31-82
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740587/abbryvgv.tel
Line Count: 179
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 MAR 2002 by collinp0>; APPROVED <08 MAY 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MBFR: MAY 30 SPC DISCUSSION OF DATA
TAGS: PARM, NATO
To: STATE
SECDEF INFO MBFR VIENNA
BONN
LONDON
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR
Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005